

PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1788.

To the Hon. RICHARD HENRY LEE, Esquire.

S I R,

YOUR name has been given to the people of America, in a letter to the Governor of Virginia, with a number of observations of the utmost importance to the public happiness. Authorised by this circumstance and the privileges of an American citizen, I have undertaken to address you. Though my want of information and the necessary talents may prevent my doing complete justice to the particular point which I mean to investigate, I promise you the respect due to your character, and to the honorable employments you have held in the service of our common country. Should I suggest to you or any other fellow-citizen facts and considerations sufficient to remove this objection to the federal constitution, my wishes will be fulfilled. At all events, however, I shall avail myself of the attention which your name will ensure to my address, and will carry it, by that advantage, to the minds of our countrymen.

The power of enacting commercial laws by "a bare majority" of the congressional legislature, appears to be a principal objection in your view of the subject, and, if I am rightly informed, it is considered in the same light by the two Honorable Virginians, who withheld their names from the act of the federal convention. Such names, Sir, and objections upon so grand a point, it is not my intention to treat lightly, yet your remarks must be dispassionately canvassed, without any undue respect to the eminent characters that suggest or support them.

In order to ascertain in what manner the legislative powers of the United States will be exercised on the commercial subject, it will be necessary to trace the federal legislature up to its several sources. You speak of the supposed danger from this power of Congress as an object of peculiar apprehension to the five southern states, from whence I presume, and I hope not unfairly, that you concur with me in considering their true interests as decidedly agricultural—and in believing that the federal legislature, whether in the one branch or in the other, so far as it shall be constituted by them, will be duly attentive to the landed interests of America, and cautious against any injurious measures which may be attempted by the mercantile representatives. Your candour will readily grant, that to those five southern states we may add Delaware and New-Jersey, two states the most absolutely agricultural of any in the union, by reason of the adjacent situations of Philadelphia and New-York.

Before we proceed to consider the true leading interests and views of the six remaining members of our confederacy, let us remember, that upon your own statement and the evidence of facts it is clearly established, that in the senate of America we shall always be certain of a majority of two devoted to her landed interests, and in the house of representatives of a majority of three, for Georgia, the Carolinas, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and Jersey are to send fourteen votes to the senate, which has twenty-six members, and thirty-four to the federal house of representatives, whose whole number is sixty-five. The erection of Kentucke and Vermont, which appear certain, into independent governments, the increasing population of the western parts of the Atlantic states, and the establishment of new members of the union on the lands of Congress, will all operate to lessen the weight of the six states, in regard to which your apprehension exists, and will increase that preponderancy which we see the other seven already possess.

Let us now turn our cool, but close, attention to those six states, from whose supposed views and interests these apprehensions arise. As Pennsylvania enjoys as great a share of foreign commerce as any of the number, and as her true situation is the most minutely known to me, I will begin there. The city of Philadelphia, the centre of our commerce, or rather its only mart, sends five members to our state legislature. The district of Southwark has always weight enough to nominate one member of the county of Philadelphia; and that part of the Northern Liberties, which joins the city, has always the opportunity of nominating another county member. These form the whole commercial representation in our Assembly, upon the most exaggerated statement. Seven persons only in a house, which consists of sixty-nine members; a little more than one tenth of the body. There is not in this commonwealth, nor can there ever be, another sea port. Residing out of Philadelphia, and its above appurtenances, there is not one merchant. But the tree is ever best known by its fruits. The majority of the Pennsylvania members of Congress, elected by the ballots of our legislature, are not commercial men. Of our delegates for the last year, and of our delegates for the current year, four out of five in each appointment have not the smallest interest in trade. The fifth, in each year, we find to be the prior of a respectable mercantile house; but though his property in trade must be very considerable, and his commercial connexions are certainly extensive, it is equally certain that his landed estate and his monies in our public funds are, each, greater in amount than his capital in trade. It is also a well known fact, that the most influential merchants of Pennsylvania are very capital land-holders in the various counties of this state and of those adjacent, from Virginia to New-York, inclusive. To such a degree are they connected with the agricultural interest, that I will venture to assert in this paper, which is to be published under their eyes, that the property employed by them (taken collectively) in every species of commerce is very far short of the value of their landed estates. How different from these are the circumstances of the merchants of Holland, France, or even of Great-Britain, yet how unavailing is the influence of the representatives of the trading and manufacturing towns in that commercial country, when the landed gentlemen unite against them—We know that on those occasions, when contests arise in our legislature between the agricultural and commercial members, the latter are ever obliged to yield to the irresistible power of the landed interest: and from the construction of the

house, which is truly stated in this letter, as well as from the unalterable nature of things in Pennsylvania, this must ever be the case. The importance of our commerce is well understood, but its most sincere and powerful friends admit, and even assert the superior importance of agriculture.

Omitting at this time to lay any thing of Connecticut, Rhode-Island and New-Hampshire, as less extensive in commerce than New-York and Massachusetts, I will venture to affirm, without detailing the situation of the two latter states, that the comparative weight of their merchants is very much the same, when opposed to their country gentlemen, as has been stated in respect to Pennsylvania. A little more or less it must necessarily be, but the difference is very greatly in favor of their farmers—If a doubt can exist in regard to either of them, it must be with respect to Massachusetts, but that will vanish, when we remember their great superiority over this state in the number of free white inhabitants.

By way of general review of this subject, I shall give you the substance and nearly the words of a late publication on "the Principles of a commercial system for the United States," addressed to the federal convention, during their late sitting, by a merchant (not a landholder) of Philadelphia.

Just opinions (says this writer) on our general affairs, must necessarily precede such a wise system of commercial regulations, as will extend our trade as far as it can be carried without affecting unfavourably our other weighty interests. It may therefore be useful to take a comparative view of the two most important objects in the United States: our agriculture and commerce.

In a country blessed with a fertile soil and a climate admitting steady labor, where the cheapness of land tempts the European from his home, and the manufacturer from his trade, we are led, by a few moments of reflection, to fix on agriculture as the great leading interest. From this we shall find most of our advantages result, so far as they arise from the nature of our affairs, and where they are not produced by the coercion of laws: the fisheries are the principal exception. In order to make a true estimate of the magnitude of agriculture, we must remember, that it is encouraged by few or no duties on the importation of rival produce—that, with a small exception in favor of our fisheries, it furnishes outward cargoes not only for all our own ships, but those also which foreign nations send to our ports, or in other words, that it pays for all our importations; that it supplies a part of the clothing of our people, and the food of them and their cattle; that what is consumed at home, including the materials for manufacturing, is four or five times the value of what is exported; that the number of people employed in agriculture, is at least nine parts in ten of the inhabitants of America, that therefore the planters and farmers form the body of the militia, the bulwark of the nation; that the value of property occupied by agriculture, is manifold greater than that of the property employed in any other way; that the settlement of our waste lands, and subdividing our improved farms is every year increasing the pre-eminence of the agricultural interest, that the resources we derive from it are at all times certain and indispensably necessary; and lastly, that the rural life promotes health and morality by its active nature, and by keeping our people from the luxuries and vices of the towns. In short, agriculture appears to be the spring of our commerce, and the parent of our manufactures.

The commerce of America, including our exports, imports, shipping, manufactures, and fisheries, may be properly considered as forming one interest. So uninformed and mistaken have many of us been, that it has been stated as the greatest object in our affairs, and I fear it is yet believed by some to be the most important interest of New-England. But from the best calculations I have been able to make, I cannot raise the proportion of property, or the number of men employed in manufactures, fisheries, navigation and trade, to one eighth of the property and people occupied by agriculture, even in that commercial quarter of the union. In making this estimate I have deducted something from the value and population of the large towns for the idle and dissipated, for those who live upon their incomes, and for supernumerary domestic servants. But the disproportion is much greater, taking the union at large, for several of the states have little commerce and no manufactures—others have no commerce, and scarcely manufacture any thing. The timber, iron, cordage, and many other articles necessary for building ships to fish or trade—nine parts in ten of their cargoes—the subsistence of the manufacturers, and much of their raw materials—are the produce of our lands. In almost all of the countries of Europe, judicious writers have considered commerce as the handmaid of agriculture. If true there, with us it must be unquestionable, for we have few manufactures to throw into the scale against the landed interest. We have in our lands full employment for our present inhabitants, and instead of sending colonies to new discovered islands, we have adjoining townships and counties, whose vacant fields wait the future increase of our people.

As a comparative view of the importance of our various interests thus terminates in a decided and great superiority of AGRICULTURE over all the rest combined, as emigration and natural increase are daily adding to the number of our planters and farmers, as the states are possessed of millions of vacant acres, that court the cultivator's hand, as the settlement of these immense tracts will greatly and steadily increase the objects of taxation, the resources, the powers of the country, as they will prove an inherent treasure of which neither folly nor chance can deprive us, we should be careful to do nothing that can interrupt this happy progress of our affairs. But should we, from a misconception of our true interests, or from any other cause, form a system of commercial regulations, prejudicial to this great mass of property, to this great body of the people, we shall injure our country during the

continuance of the error, and must finally adopt a plan which will promote that evident, most important, and essential interest—THE AGRICULTURE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Here, Sir, let us pause a moment. Let us consider with that candor, which I am sure you love, and which the interesting nature of the subject requires, the foregoing facts and observations. Two conclusions, it appears to me, will inevitably result from them in a mind as just and enlightened as yours; 1st, that since there is no state legislature in our confederacy, wherein the landed gentlemen will not at all times form a great and commanding majority, and as there are some in which a commercial interest is entirely unknown, so there is an unquestionable certainty that much the greater part of the federal senate, whom they are to depute, will be always attached to the agricultural interest; and adly, as there is no state in the union in which the planters or farmers do not form an irresistible majority of the people at large, and as there are some in which a permanent mercantile house is not to be found, so there is also an indubitable certainty, that much the greater part of the federal representatives will be always devoted to the landed interest of the United States.

But, Sir, let us proceed to your next difficulty on this point. You ask, how are you to build ships in your commonwealth, and from whence are you to procure seamen? I will venture to promise you as many Virginia built ships as you can profitably employ, on as low terms as they can be built in Philadelphia or New York. There is nothing in our commerce more certain; and the merchants of this city know it from the experience of real facts. Philadelphia has ever had among the vessels belonging to it great numbers built in the other states, the southern as well as the northern. In regard to seamen, Pennsylvania has few natives in that line. Certain employment, and a little higher wages, will draw them to Virginia from New-England, the West-Indies and Europe, as they have always drawn them to Philadelphia.

With respect to the shipping of America, I am very doubtful whether the merchants of those states that have not large and valuable exports will continue to own vessels in any great numbers. Many will no doubt be built there; but when our country and our commerce is once more brought to order, the merchants residing at the great scenes of export will find it profitable and convenient to purchase or build ships, by which the northern owner will be so far interfered with. I will venture, therefore, to predict, that however cheap vessels may be hereafter in New-England, there will be many built on the waters of the Chesapeake, and very many owned by the merchants residing on them. Already is the matter arrived to such a point, that few men desire to be permanent owners of vessels in the New-England states. That country has been much deceived by looking to the example of Holland, to produce whose commercial aggrandizement many circumstances conspired, that do not exist at this time, and which can never take place in America. That province was an asylum of religious liberty, or at least of toleration, for the oppressed people of the surrounding nations, a point on which all our states must be happy and equal, as long as no religious test is necessary to a share in our federal government. Holland was also an asylum of political liberty, in regard to which the southern states will be on a footing with the northern. The Dutch lived amongst surrounding nations, who, in the early days of their republic, paid no regard to commerce; whereas every state in America views it with an eager, desiring eye, and pursues it to the utmost of her power. And lastly, the Dutch provinces had, by various means, amassed to large a monied capital, and obtained such a footing in regard to foreign colonies, necessary in the European trade, before the importance of commerce was discovered by their neighbours, that it was impossible to contend with the mighty force of the first, or to deprive them of their strong hold of the last. This you know, Sir, was the situation of Holland; but in the affairs of the United States, foreign colonies subservient to commerce must for a long time remain not even a matter of expectation or desire, and if ever the time shall arrive when the American confederacy will possess such dependencies, they must be equally accessible to the vessels of the southern states, and to those of the northern. With respect to a powerful monied capital, the value of their productions must, with the same republican habits and manners, give our southern citizens a decided superiority over their northern brethren.

The steady and unalterable course of events is daily increasing the weight of agriculture, and of the southern states. If we cast our eyes upon a map of America, we shall instantly perceive, that even the unsettled parts of Virginia, the Carolinas and Georgia, greatly exceed the whole country of New-England. Emigration to the eastern states never takes place, but from thence it constantly does, and will keep down their numbers; while, by that very circumstance, as well as by emigration from Europe, will the people of the western and southern country increase and multiply, carrying annually to a greater degree the established preponderancy of agriculture, and throwing still greater weight into the southern scale.

The apprehensions you entertain concerning the interference of the commercial with the agricultural interests of the United States ought not to have been reserved. I rejoice at your explicit declaration of them, because I hope it may lead those, whose particular duty it is, to give the subject a thorough investigation, which I confidently trust will terminate in the total dissipation of their fears.

I have the honor to be,

With very great respect,

Sir, your most obedient servant,

AN AMERICAN.

THE importance of the union, in a commercial light, is one of those points, about which there is least room to entertain a difference of opinion, and which has in fact commanded the most general assent of men, who have any acquaintance with the subject. This applies as well to our intercourse with foreign countries, as with each other.

There are appearances to authorize a supposition that the adventurous spirit, which distinguishes the commercial character of America, has already excited uneasy sensations in several of the maritime powers of Europe. They seem to be apprehensive of our too great interference in that carrying trade, which is the support of their navigation and the foundation of their naval strength. Those of them, which have colonies in America, look forward to what this country is capable of becoming with painful solicitude. They foresee the dangers that many threaten their American dominions from the neighbourhood of states, which have all the dispositions, and would possess all the means, requisite to the creation of a powerful marine. Impressions of this kind will naturally indicate the policy of fostering divisions among us, and of depriving us, as far as possible, of an ACTIVE COMMERCE in our own bottoms. This would answer the three-fold purpose of preventing our interference in their navigation, of monopolizing the profits of our trade, and of clipping the wings by which we might soar to dangerous greatness. Did not prudence forbid the detail, it would not be difficult to trace, by facts, the workings of this policy to the cabinets of ministers.

If we continue united, we may counteract a policy so unfriendly to our prosperity in a variety of ways. By prohibitory regulations, extending at the same time throughout the states, we may oblige foreign countries to bid against each other for the privileges of our markets. This assertion will not appear chimerical to those, who are able to appreciate the importance of the markets of three millions of people—increasing in rapid progression, for the most part exclusively addicted to agriculture, and likely from local circumstances to remain so—to any manufacturing nation; and the immense difference there would be to the trade and navigation of such a nation, between a direct communication in its own ships, and an indirect conveyance of its products and returns, to and from America, in the ships of another country. Suppose, for instance, we had a government in America, capable of excluding Great-Britain (with whom we have at present no treaty of commerce) from all our ports, what would be the probable operation of this step upon her politics? Would it not enable us to negotiate with the first prospect of success for commercial privileges, of the most valuable and extensive kind, in the dominions of that kingdom? When these questions have been asked upon other occasions, they have received a plausible, but not a solid or satisfactory, answer. It has been said that prohibitions on our part would produce no change in the system of Britain; because she could prosecute her trade with us through the medium of the Dutch, who would be her immediate customers and pay-masters for those articles which were wanted for the supply of our markets. But would not her navigation be materially injured, by the loss of the important advantage of being her own carrier in that trade? Would not the principal part of its profits be intercepted by the Dutch, as a compensation for their agency and risk? Would not the mere circumstance of freight occasion a considerable deduction? Would not so circuitous an intercourse facilitate the competitions of other nations, by enhancing the price of British commodities in our markets, and by transferring to other hands the management of this interesting branch of the British commerce?

A mature consideration of the objects suggested by these questions will justify a belief, that the real disadvantages to Britain from such a state of things, conspiring with the prepossessions of a great part of the nation in favor of the American trade, and with the importunities of the West-India islands, would produce a relaxation in her present system, and would let us into the enjoyment of privileges in the markets of those islands and elsewhere, from which our trade would derive the most substantial benefits. Such a point gained from the British government, and which could not be expected without an equivalent in exemptions and immunities in our markets, would be likely to have a correspondent effect on the conduct of other nations, who would not be inclined to fee themselves altogether supplanted in our trade.

A further resource for influencing the conduct of European nations towards us, in this respect, would arise from the establishment of a federal navy. There can be no doubt that the continuance of the union, under an efficient government, would put it in our power, at a period not very distant, to create a navy, which, if it could not vie with those of the great maritime powers, would at least be of respectable weight, if thrown into the scale of either of two contending parties. This would be more peculiarly the case in relation to operations in the West-Indies. A few ships of the line sent opportunely to the reinforcement of either side would often be sufficient to decide the fate of a campaign, on the event of which interests of the greatest magnitude were suspended. Our position in this respect is a very commanding one. And if to this consideration we add that of the usefulness of supplies from this country, in the prosecution of military operations in the West-Indies, it will readily be perceived, that a situation so favourable would enable us to bargain with great advantage for commercial privileges. A price would not be set only upon our friendship, but upon our neutrality. By a steady adherence to the union we may hope ere long to become the Arbitrer of Europe in America; and to be able to incline the balance of European competitions in this part of the world as our interest may dictate.

But in the reverse of this eligible situation we shall discover, that the rivalships of the parts would make them checks upon each other, and would frustrate all the tempting advantages which nature has kindly placed within our reach. In a state so insignificant, our commerce would be a prey to the wanton intermeddlings of all nations at war with each other; who, having nothing to fear from us, would with little scruple or remorse supply their wants by depredations on our property, as often as it fell in their way. The rights of neutrality will only be respected, when they are defended by an adequate power. A nation, despicable by its weakness, forfeits even the privilege of being neutral.

Under a vigorous national government, the natural strength and resources of the country, directed to a common interest, would baffle all the combinations of European jealousy to restrain our growth. This situation would even take away the motive to such combinations, by inducing an impracticability of success. An active commerce, an extensive navigation, and a flourishing marine, would then be the inevitable offspring of moral and physical necessity. We might defy the little arts of little politicians to control, or vary, the irresistible and unchangeable course of nature.

But in a state of disunion these combinations might exist, and might operate with success. It would be in the power of the maritime nations, availing themselves of our universal impotence, to prescribe the conditions of our political existence; and as they have a common interest in being our carriers, and still more in preventing our being theirs, they would in all probability combine to embarrass our navigation in such a manner, as would in effect destroy it, and confine us to a PASSIVE COMMERCE. We should thus be compelled to content ourselves with the first price of our commodities, and see the profits of our trade snatched from us to enrich our enemies and persecutors. That unequalled spirit of enterprise, which signalizes the genius of the Ame-

rican merchants and navigators, and which is in itself an inexhaustible mine of national wealth, would be stifled and lost; and poverty and disgrace would overspread a country, which with wisdom might make herself the admiration and envy of the world.

There are rights of great moment to the trade of America, which are rights of the union—I allude to the fisheries, to the navigation of the western lakes and to that of the Mississippi. The dissolution of the confederacy would give room for delicate questions, concerning the future existence of these rights; which the interest of more powerful partners would hardly fail to solve to our disadvantage. The disposition of Spain with regard to the Mississippi needs no comment. France and Britain are concerned with us in the fisheries, and view them as of the utmost moment to their navigation. They, of course, would hardly remain long indifferent of that decided mastery, of which experience has shown us to be possessed in this valuable branch of traffic, and by which we are enabled to undersell those nations in their own markets. What more natural, than that they should be disposed to exclude from the fish such dangerous competitors?

This branch of trade ought not to be considered as a partial benefit. All the navigating states may in different degrees advantageously participate in it, and under circumstances of a greater extension of mercantile capital would not be unlikely to do it. As a nursery for seamen it now is, or when time shall have more nearly assimilated the principles of navigation in the several states, will become a universal resource. To the establishment of a navy it must be indispensable.

To this great national object, a NAVY, union will contribute in various ways. Every institution will grow and flourish, in proportion to the quantity and extent of the means concentrated towards its formation and support. A navy of the United States, as it would embrace the resources of all, is an object far less remote than a navy of any single state, or partial confederacy, which would only embrace the resources of a part. It happens, indeed, that different portions of confederated America possess each some peculiar advantage for this essential establishment. The more southern states furnish in greater abundance certain kinds of naval stores—tar, pitch and turpentine. Their wood for the construction of ships is also of a more solid and lasting texture. The difference in the duration of the ships of which the navy might be composed, if chiefly constructed of southern wood, would be of signal importance either in the view of naval strength or of national economy. Some of the southern and of the middle states yield a greater plenty of iron and of better quality. Seamen must chiefly be drawn from the northern hive. The necessity of naval protection to external or maritime commerce does not require a particular elucidation, no more than the conduciveness of that species of commerce to the prosperity of a navy. They, by a kind of reaction, mutually beneficial, promote each other.

An unrestrained intercourse between the states themselves will advance the trade of each, by an interchange of their respective productions, not only for the supply of reciprocal wants at home, but for exportation to foreign markets. The veins of commerce in every part will be replenished, and will acquire additional motion and vigour from a free circulation of the commodities of every part. Commercial enterprise will have much greater scope, from the diversity in the productions of different states. When the staple of one fails, from a bad harvest or unproductive crop, it can call to its aid the staple of another—the variety, not less than the value, of products for exportation contributes to the activity of foreign commerce. It can be conducted upon much better terms with a large number of materials of a given value, than with a small number of materials of the same value; arising from the competitions of trade, and from the fluctuations of markets. Particular articles may be in great demand at certain periods, and unsaleable at others; but if there be a variety of articles, it can scarcely happen that they should all be at one time in the latter predicament; and on this account, the operations of the merchant would be less liable to any considerable obstruction or stagnation. The speculative trader will at once perceive the force of these observations, and will acknowledge that the aggregate balance of the commerce of the United States would bid fair to be much more favorable, than that of the Thirteen States without union, or with partial unions.

It may perhaps be replied to this, that whether the states are united, or disunited, there would still be an intimate intercourse between them, which would answer the same ends: But this intercourse would be fettered, interrupted and narrowed, by a multiplicity of causes, which in the course of these papers have been amply detailed. An unity of commercial, as well as political interests can only result from an unity of government.

There are other points of view in which this subject might be placed, of a striking and animating kind. But they would lead us too far into the regions of futurity, and would involve topics not proper for a news-paper discussion.—I shall briefly observe, that our situation invites, and our interest prompts us, to aim at an ascendancy in the system of American affairs. This would be politically, as well as geographically, be divided into four parts, each having a distinct set of interests. Unhappily for the other three, Europe, by her arms and by her negotiations, by force and by fraud, has, in different degrees, extended her dominion over them all. Africa, Asia and America, have successively felt her domination. The superiority she has long maintained has tempted her to plume herself as the Mistress of the World, and to consider the rest of mankind as created for her benefit. Men, admired as profound philosophers, have, in direct terms, attributed to her inhabitants a physical superiority, and have gravely asserted that all animals, and with them the human species, degenerate in America—that even dogs cease to bark, after having breathed a while in our atmosphere.* Facts have too long supported these arrogant pretensions of the Europeans: It belongs to us to vindicate the honor of the human race, and to teach that assuming brother moderation. Union will enable us to do it. Disunion will add another victim to his triumphs. Let Americans disdain to be the instruments of European greatness! Let the thirteen states, bound together in a strict and indissoluble union, concur in erecting one great American system, superior to the controul of all transatlantic force or influence, and able to dictate the terms of the connection between the old and the new world!

PUBLIUS.

* *Recherches philosophiques sur les Americains.*

SHELBURNE, November 29.

It may be necessary to inform the public, that the Light-House, building at the entrance of this port, on McNutt's Head, can be seen five leagues at sea, and at first sight has been taken for a sail; mariners therefore will govern themselves accordingly. The masons, &c. employed in erecting it have quit till spring, as however fine the season, an accidental set in of frost and cold weather might injure the new work. It is now thirty feet nine inches high from the foundation, and more than a hundred feet above the level of the sea. It is yet to be carried 33 feet higher, exclusive of the lantern, and when finished, it is imagined will be seen at a greater distance than any other light-house.

A finer season than the present fall no country upon earth can boast of, and is very similar to the fall of the years 83, 84 and 85. One untimely frost we have had, in the month of September, which a good deal injured

the buckwheat. But since then the weather has been so exceedingly fine and temperate, that in many places the strawberry vines have again blossomed out, and in some gardens the pinks are again blowing, and many other flowers are in full bloom. As yet we have not even had a spit of snow, and on Thursday last the thermometer was as high as 52.

BOSTON, December 28.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Gottenburg (Sweden) to a gentleman in this town, dated Nov. 4, 1787.

"Since writing, every ounce of hemp in town is bought up for the English, so that no supplies of that article will be at market before next July.

"Our letters just arrived from Germany, breathe nothing but war between the king of Prussia and the emperor, and the same between France, England and Holland.

"You will have heard that the Turks have already declared war against the Russians, who will call on the court of Vienna for assistance."

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Salem, to his friend in this town, December 26.

"The new constitution meets with general approbation in this town; almost every person of property and honesty wishes for the adoption of it. There are some few, however, whose characters as honest men and good citizens is thoroughly established, who are rather in opposition to it. This I much wonder at; but candour obliges me to judge favourably of their motives, because they have ever been decided friends to the welfare and happiness of their country. I however hope that time will effect a change of their sentiments; and I think I have some foundation for my hopes;

For truth and reason's bright'ned rays combin'd,
Will force conviction on the candid mind.

I think, my friend, that it can be demonstrated to the conception of every rational mind, that the new constitution is nobly calculated to support and defend those inestimable rights for which the citizens of America so long toiled and bled. I need not, however, delineate its beauties to you, as you are already fully sensible of them.

There is one thing which gives me not a little pain, and it is this. The hon. SAMUEL ADAMS, I hear, is in opposition to the plan of federal government. Although he may act from motives truly patriotic in this affair, you know the caprice of human nature is such, that mankind never put the most favourable construction upon the conduct of each other; and if a man does ninety nine good actions and neglects the hundredth, he often comes under the goading lash of censure. I may perhaps be mistaken, but it is really my opinion, that Mr. Adams's opposition to the federal constitution will, in the eyes of America, fully the brightness of those laurels which have so long encircled the brow of that venerable statesman.

You ask me, whether I suppose that there will be much opposition made to the new constitution, in our state convention. I answer, I hope not. For before the federalism of a HANCOCK, a BOWDOIN, a DANA, a KING, and many other illustrious characters, who are members of the convention, anti-federalism must droop, and recoil in silent shame. I think we have every thing to hope, and very little to fear."

Extract of a letter from Cambridge.

"You inform me that the hon. Mr. A---- had been very much upon the reserve, as to his sentiments upon the new plan, till the choice of delegates for convention was made; and since that time has dipped his pen in venom and gall against the constitution. He may have good reasons for his conduct; but for my part I cannot reconcile it with that consistency of character which ought ever to distinguish every good man: it favours more of the politician than the patriot. But what surprizes me most is, that he should attempt to divide and distract our councils, by encouraging the republication of R. H. L's hackney'd trumpery, in a pamphlet circulated in Connecticut, and lately brought here, as if there was not a man among us capable of dissecting the constitution."

NEW-YORK, January 4.

Yesterday arrived the brig James, Capt. Haight, in 35 days from St. Augustine. It is said, that a considerable part of the freight of the above vessel (owned by Messrs. Lynch and Stoughton, merchants, of this city) is SPANISH MILLED DOLLARS.

Capt. Ewing, who arrived here on Wednesday, from Londonderry, spoke the snow Robert, from St. Vincents, bound to New London, in lat. 38, and long. 68; also the brig Hector, from this port, bound to Dublin, in long. 71.

On Friday the 21st ult. arrived at Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, in three days, from Shelburne, the schooner Charlotte, Capt. Harwood, who informs, that the Governor at Halifax had procured a number of workmen from different parts of Nova Scotia, and they work with unremitting industry on the fortifications; likewise that they were impressing seamen at Halifax. The day before he sailed, Capt. Atkins, arrived in a Schooner, from Philadelphia, at Shelburne.

Extract of a letter from a member of Congress to his friend in Exeter, Massachusetts, dated December 20, 1787.

"The account you saw in the newspapers respecting the sale of the western lands must have been erroneous. There were about 120,000 acres of the first surveys that went off at the average price of about one dollar an acre; and what has been contracted for at two thirds of a Dollar per acre, will amount to near seven million dollars, to be paid at different periods. There are still great tracts of lands belonging to the United States in the western country; but how long the rage for purchasing will continue, or what proportion of the domestic debt will be absorbed in this way, is very uncertain. The States have a right to look to North Carolina and Virginia for large cessions of territory, and should they comply, there will be land enough, if they can find purchasers, to sink the whole. But as this depends on the nature of our government and various circumstances, it is difficult to foresee what will take place.

Jan. 10. The Convention of the state of Connecticut met at Hartford on Tuesday last, when His Excellency Matthew Griswold, Esq; was chosen President. They then proceeded to consider the proposed constitution by sections. It is expected the important question was decided yesterday.---No particulars are come to hand.

PHILADELPHIA, January 16.

At a meeting of the Stockholders of the Bank of North-America, held on Monday last, the following Gentlemen were chosen Directors for the present year:---Thomas Willing, Samuel Powel, Andrew Caldwell, John Nixon, John M. Nesbitt, Richard Bache, Andrew Tybout, Mordecai Lewis, Josiah Hewes, Henry Hill, Thomas Fitzsimons, and John Rofi, Esquires.

At a meeting of "The Philadelphia Society for alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons," on Monday evening, the 14th inst. the following Gentlemen were chosen Officers for the present year:

President. William White.
Vice-Presidents. Richard Wells, Henry Helmuth.
Secretaries. John Swanwick, William Rogers.
Treasurer. Thomas Rogers.
Physicians. Benjamin Rush, William Shippen, John Jones, Gerardus Clarkson.

Electing Committee. George Duffield, Tench Coxe, James Starr, John Kaighn, Charles Marshall, Thomas Harrison, John Olden, James Whiteall, Jacob Shoemaker, William Zane, John Claypoole, Caleb Lowmes.

Acting Committee for the present Quarter. Francis Bailey, John Morrison, Jeremiah Fisher, Benjamin Thaw, William Lippencott, Thomas Humphreys.

Secretary to the Acting Committee. John Olden.

It is singular, says a correspondent, that the Hon. Geo. Mason, Esq; of Virginia, should have taken great pains in the Federal Convention to create a distinction of property in a free country, as is evidenced by his endeavouring to make sixteen thousand dollars a necessary qualification for a secondary office---and that he should not frankly declare the want of any kind of pecuniary qualification to be one of his objections; while, on the other hand, he complains of the want of a bill of rights, on which point he never bestowed a single hour of all his long and numerous speeches in that assembly. How is it that right and wrong have become thus convertible? They used to be the same at all times, and in all places.

It is agreeable, says a correspondent, to observe how many of the same events and circumstances concur in favour of the New Federal Government, that occurred in favour of the opposition to Great-Britain and the declaration of independence in the beginning of the war. 1st. The American revolution began in the town of Boston. In the same town we observe the most perfect unanimity in the choice of deputies to attend the state convention.

2dly. The same characters who took the lead in each of the states in the struggle for liberty in the glorious years 1775 and 1766, now take the lead in their exertions to establish the federal government, viz. Sullivan and Langdon in New-Hampshire; Hancock, Dana and Lincoln, in Massachusetts; Huntington, Ellsworth and Wadsworth, in Connecticut; Schuyler, Jay, Hamilton, Benson, Gansevoort and Livingston, in New-York; Livingston, Brearly, Patterson, Stevens and Witherspoon, in New-Jersey; Franklin, Morris, Clymer, McKean, Wilson, M'Kinn and Wayne, in Pennsylvania; Dickinson, Read and Bedford, in Delaware; Smallwood, Johnson, Carroll, Jennifer and M'Henry, in Maryland; WASHINGTON, Pendleton, Blair, Madison and Page, in Virginia; Caswell, Spright and Blount, in North-Carolina; the Rutledges, Pinkneys, Laurens and Ramsay, in South Carolina; and, lastly, Few, Teltair and Baldwin, in Georgia.

3dly. The men who manifested the most unequivocal attachment to liberty, by enduring cold, hunger and nakedness in the army, during a long and bloody war, are (with two or three exceptions) to a man in favour of the new government, from the great and good General Washington down to the lowest private that beat a drum or blew a fife under him.

4thly. The ministers of the gospel of every denomination (one or two excepted) are now united, from one end of the continent to the other, in praying with the same zeal that they did for the preservation of our liberties in the years 1775 and 1776, for the establishment of the new federal government.

It is not intended (by our correspondent) to intimate that a few of the distinguished and worthy characters of the years 1775 and 1776, are not unfriendly to the new government. These men have urged their objections with decency. They accuse the Federal Convention of no improper or wicked designs. Witness the letters of the Hon. Governor Randolph and Richard H. Lee, Esq; How different are the publications of these gentlemen from some of the publications in this city, in which the members of the Convention (Franklin and Washington not excepted) are called Conspirators, Aristocrats, a Conclave, Enemies of Liberty, Ufurpers, diabolical Schemers, &c. &c. Such expressions do no honour to any cause, and make no proselytes.

Extract of a letter of a late date, from the Illustrious President of the late Federal Convention, to his Friend in Frederickburgh, Virginia---extracted from Mr. Green's Virginia Herald.

"I thank you for your kind congratulation on my safe return from the Convention, and am pleased that the proceedings of it have met your approbation.---My decided opinion of the matter is, that there is no alternative between the adoption of it and anarchy. If one State (however important it may conceive itself to be) or a minority of them, should suppose they can dictate a Constitution to the Union (unless they have the power of applying the ultima ratio to good effect) they will find themselves deceived. All the opposition to it that I have yet seen is, I must confess, addressed more to the passions than to reason; and clear I am, if another Federal Convention is attempted, that the sentiments of the members will be more discordant or less accommodating than the last. In fine, they will agree upon no general plan. General government is now suspended by a thread, I might go further, and say it is really at an end, and what will be the consequence of a fruitless attempt to amend the one which is offered, before it is tried, or of the delay from the attempt, does not in my judgement need the gift of prophecy to predict.

"I am not a blind admirer (for I saw the imperfections of the constitution I aided in the birth of before it was handed to the public, but I am fully persuaded it is the best that can be obtained at this time, that it is free from many of the imperfections with which it is charged, and that it or disunion is before us to chufe from. If the first is our election, when the defects of it are experienced, a constitutional door is opened for amendments, and may be adopted in a peaceable manner, without tumult or disorder."

On Monday, the 6th inst. Capt. JAMES BUDDEN left us for ever! This gentleman was for many years an eminent and respectable merchant of this city: In the prosecution of his commercial views, he was ever governed by those principles, which, in a trading country, designate the true merchant,---punctuality, integrity and assiduity. His political character, throughout the late revolution, was ever strongly marked by the most pure and unadulterate zeal and attachment for the liberties, the welfare and the happiness of his country; and to that country were his services voluntarily devoted, as often as they became necessary to her safety and defence. The Philadelphia troop of light horse, which, during the late war, were justly distinguished for that

alacrity with which they served their country in the most gloomy times, are not a little indebted to the enterprise and activity of this gentleman, who was one of the first that formed and organized that corps, and served with it even longer than a delicate state of health and debilitated frame would justify. His domestic qualities an amiable family feel, poignantly feel, the loss of. His social ones make him regretted, sincerely regretted by a wide circle of friends, one of whom, not the least sincere, pays this last tribute to his memory.

On Thursday last died, Mr. JAMES DUNDAS, late of this city, after a short indisposition, which he endured with the happy resignation of a christian; the Sunday following his remains were interred in Christ Church burying ground; a large and respectable number of citizens attended the solemn occasion, to pay their last regards to this worthy character, lamenting that in him they lost a bright example of unaffected piety---a steady vigilant patriot---a valuable citizen---a sincere friend, and an honest man---his private virtue the delight of all who knew him, and the source of superior domestic happiness, rendered his loss inconceivably great, to an amiable parentless family.

To the People of the United States.

WHEN we observe how much the several gentlemen of the late Convention, who declined to sign the federal constitution, differ in their ground of opposition, we must see how improbable it is, that another convention would unite in the same degree in any plan. Col. Mason and Mr. Gerry complain of the want of a bill of rights; Governor Randolph does not even mention it as desirable, much less as necessary. Col. Mason objects to the powers of Congress to raise an army; Governor Randolph and Mr. Gerry make no objections on this point, but the former seems to think a militia an inconvenient and uncertain dependence, which is contrary to our opinions in Pennsylvania. Mr. Randolph gives up the objection against the power of Congress to regulate trade by a majority; Mr. Mason complains of this, and says the objection is insuperable; Mr. Gerry does not say a word against it. Mr. Randolph wishes the President ineligible after a given number of years; Mr. Mason and Mr. Gerry do not make this one of their objections. Mr. Randolph objects to some ambiguities; Mr. Mason does not. Col. Mason objects to the slave trade on the principles of policy merely; Mr. Gerry and Mr. Randolph make no such objections. Mr. Mason objects to the power of the President to pardon for treason; Mr. Gerry makes no such objection, and Mr. Randolph wishes, only, that the offender may be convicted before the President shall have power to pardon! This appears to be a legal solecism. Mr. Randolph objects to the power of Congress to determine their wages (the privilege of every legislature in the union;) but Mr. Gerry and Col. Mason do not object to this power. Mr. Randolph objects to the President's power of appointing the judges; Mr. Gerry and Col. Mason do not. Mr. Gerry says the people have no security for the right of election; Col. Mason and Mr. Randolph do not make this objection. Mr. Gerry and Mr. Mason think the representation not duly provided for; Mr. Randolph expresses no such idea. Mr. Mason objects to the want of security for the common law, to the power of the senate to alter money bills, to originate applications of money, to regulate the officers salaries, to the want of a privy Council, to the Vice-President, to the want of a clause concerning the press, and to the want of power in the states to lay imposts on exports; not one of which are stated as objections by Mr. Randolph or Mr. Gerry. Mr. Randolph objects to the want of a proper court of impeachment for senators (tho' the state courts of impeachment can always take cognizance of them;) Mr. Gerry and Col. Mason do not hold this exceptionable. Col. Mason objects to the states, or Congress, being restrained from passing *ex post facto* laws; Mr. Randolph and Mr. Gerry do not.

The minority of the Pennsylvania convention, on the other hand, differ from all these gentlemen. They say, the defects of the old confederation were not discovered till after the peace; while Mr. Randolph says, the short period between the ratification of the old constitution and the peace was distinguished by melancholy testimonies of its defects and faults. The Minority object, because some of the persons appointed by Pennsylvania have disapproved of our state constitution, which differs from those of eleven states in the union in the want of a division of the legislature, and in having nineteen persons to execute the office of governor, whose number will be increased by the addition of one more for every new county.

The Minority object to the latitude taken by the convention; we find no such objection made by Mr. Randolph, Mr. Gerry or Col. Mason. Mr. Gerry says, in his letter, it was necessary; and Mr. Mason insisted strongly in the house, that the convention could not do their business, unless they considered and recommended every thing that concerned the interests of the United States, tho' the strict letter of their powers was supposed by some not to extend so far. The Minority say, religious liberty is not duly secured; which is omitted as an objection by all of the three gentlemen above named. The right of the people to fish, fowl and hunt, the freedom of speech, provision against disarming the people, a declaration of the subordination of the military to the civil power, annual elections of the representatives, and the organization and call of the militia, are considered by the Minority of our convention, as on an exceptionable footing; but none of these are even mentioned by Governor Randolph, Mr. Mason or Mr. Gerry. The Minority desire a declaration, that such powers as are not expressly given shall be considered as retained; Mr. Randolph thinks this unnecessary, for that the states retain every thing they do not grant. Mr. Gerry is silent on this head. The Minority desire a constitutional Council for the President; Mr. Gerry and Mr. Randolph do not. The Minority except against powers to erect a court of equity being vested in the federal government; to which neither of the above gentlemen express any dislike. The Minority desire a bill of rights, and object to the smallness of the representation; which Mr. Randolph does not. They object to the term of duration of the legislature; which none of the above gentlemen find fault with. Nor does the account of particulars end here. The objections severally made by the three honorable gentlemen and the Pennsylvania Minority are so different, and even discordant in their essential principles, that all hope of greater unanimity of opinion, either in another convention, or in the people, must be given up by those who know the human heart and mind, with their infinitely varying feelings and ideas.

January 15, 1788.

PHILANTHROPOS.

FOUR PENCE Reward.

RAN away from the subscriber, living in Southampton township, Bucks county, on the 21st day of December last, an indentured servant man, named William Hopper, near 21 years of age, has four months and eleven days to serve, black hair and black eyes, about 5 feet 8 inches high, well made; had on when he went away, a grey coloured upper jacket, a swankin under ditto, old leather breeches, old shoes, with odd buckles, a calico hat. Whoever takes up the said servant, and brings him home to his master, shall be paid the above reward, and their labour for their pains, by

LEONARD KROESEN.

Ridley township, Chester county, Dec. 30, 1787.

TAKEN trespassing on the subscriber's inclosure, two Mares, supposed to be about three years old, near 14 hands high; the one a sorrel, has no perceivable mark; the other a black, with a star in her forehead. The owner or owners, proving property and paying charges, may have them again, by applying to

JOHN NOBLIT.

THE ACTING COMMITTEE of the

Society for alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons, visiting agreeable to their appointment, the Goal and Work-house of this city, have frequently wished that the funds of their institution would allow them to supply the unhappy beings, there confined, with suitable clothing during this inclement season; but as this is altogether out of their power, they find themselves under the necessity of calling on their fellow citizens to afford all possible relief in this particular.---Any old blankets, shoes, stockings, mens and womens apparel, will be highly acceptable: such articles looked up, and forwarded to Mrs. Richards, at the Work-house, will be duly administered to the wretched and suffering prisoners. The Committee mean not to enlarge; they flatter themselves the inhabitants of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, will, readily, out of their abundance, spare a little to cloath the naked, as they have already contributed toward feeding the hungry: and thus shall the blessing of many, ready to perish, alight on the heads of their humane and generous Benefactors.

William Rogers,
John Morrison,
Benjamin Thaw,
John Kaighn,
Francis Bailey,
Jeremiah Fisher.

Acting
Committee.

Philadelphia, Jan. 12, 1788.

TO THE PUBLIC.

BY virtue of the authority vested in us, the subscribers, as Auditors appointed by the court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia county, in a certain domestic attachment therein pending, wherein Jacob Benner the elder and Jacob Benner the younger, executors of George Benner, deceased, are plaintiffs, against Edward M'Keggan, defendant, there will be sold at public Vendue, at the Old Coffee-House, in the city of Philadelphia, on Wednesday, the 13th day of February next, at six o'clock in the evening, for the benefit of the said Edward M'Keggan's creditors, a certain two story BRICK HOUSE, with the LOT of GROUND whereon the same is erected, situate on the east side of Third-street from Delaware, in the said city, at the distance of 43 feet to the northward of Union-street, containing in front on Third-street 16 feet, and in length or depth 56 feet 6 inches, with the privilege of an alley of three and an half feet in width leading from Union-street.

The purchase money of the Ground on which the house stands, amounting to £ 175, with interest thereon from the 19th of March 1782, have not yet been paid, but the owner of the ground will deliver the deed, as soon as his demand is discharged.

The House is convenient, has a genteel appearance, and its situation pleasant and agreeable. Attendance will be given by the subscribers,

Philadelphia county,
Jan. 9, 1788.

JOHN BROWNE,
JAMES ASH,
THOMAS BRITTON.

WHITE and PATTON, Mer-

chants of this city, late Copartners in Trade, having assigned to us, the subscribers, all the estate, rights, credits and effects of said copartnership, and impowered us to demand and receive payment of and from all persons indebted to the copartnership aforesaid. The debtors are hereby notified, that unless they respectively do pay or secure the payment in three months from the date hereof, they will be proceeded against according to law, without respect to persons.

Jan. 11, 1788. ABEL JAMES,) Assignees.
STEPHEN COLLINS,)

Newtown, January 9, 1788.

BY virtue of a writ of Venditioni Exponas, to me directed, will be exposed to sale, on Wednesday, the 30th instant, on the premises, at two o'clock in the afternoon, A certain Messuage, Plantation and Tract of Land, situate in Plumstead township; bounded by lands of Thomas Lewis, Frederick Cook, and others, and containing about 80 acres; taken in execution as the property of David Adams, and to be sold by

WILLIAM ROBERTS, Sheriff.

Bucks County, January 9, 1788.

BY virtue of a writ of Venditioni Exponas, to me directed, will be exposed to public sale, on Thursday, the 31st inst. at the house of George Piper, inn-keeper, in Bedminster township, at two o'clock in the afternoon, A certain Messuage and Tract of Land, situate in Plumstead township, containing about 118 acres; bounded by land of Adam Finisman, land late of Josiah Ferguson, and others; late the property of John Foreman; taken in execution, and to be sold by

WILLIAM ROBERTS, Sheriff.

Bucks county, January 9, 1788.

BY virtue of a writ of Venditioni Exponas, to me directed, will be exposed to public sale, on Tuesday, the 5th of February next, at the house of Paul Samsel, inn keeper, in Milford township, at two o'clock in the afternoon, A certain Messuage and Tract of Land, situate in Milford aforesaid, containing about 45 acres, be the same more or less; taken in execution as the property of Betty Thomas, and to be sold by

WILLIAM ROBERTS, Sheriff.

Bucks county, January 9, 1788.

BY virtue of a writ of Levam Facias, to me directed, will be exposed to public sale, on Saturday, the 9th of February next, at the house of Samuel Flack, inn-keeper, in Warwick township, at two o'clock in the afternoon, A certain Messuage and Tract of Land, situate in Plumstead township, containing about 17 acres and 115 perches, bounded by lands of Matthew Day, Edward Good, Christian Overholtz, and others; taken in execution as the property of Jacob Glaufe, and to be sold by

WILLIAM ROBERTS, Sheriff.

Bucks county, January 9, 1788.

BY virtue of a writ of Venditioni Exponas, to me directed, will be exposed to public sale, at the house of Samuel Flack, inn-keeper, in Warwick township, on Saturday, the 9th of February next, at two o'clock in the afternoon, A certain Plantation or Tract of Land, situate in Plumstead township, containing about 90 acres, be the same more or less; bounded by lands of John Dyer, Thomas Dyer, Thomas Wright, and others; late the property of Josiah Dyer, deceased; taken in execution, and to be sold by

WILLIAM ROBERTS, Sheriff.

Bucks county, January 9, 1788.

BY virtue of a writ of Levam Facias, to me directed, will be exposed to public sale, on Monday, the 11th of February next, at two o'clock in the afternoon, at the Court-house in Newtown, Two Lots of Land in Newtown aforesaid, containing in the whole about six acres; the soil is of the best quality, and several dwelling-houses are erected on the lots, one of which is occupied as an Inn, and is well situated for the same; there are also barns, stables and other necessary out-buildings, so as to render them very valuable and convenient; all late the property of Deborah Sedons, deceased, and to be sold by

WILLIAM ROBERTS, Sheriff.

CAME to the plantation of the subscriber, living in Treacyrinn township, Chester county, Pennsylvania, about the beginning of December last, a small sorrel MARE, supposed to be ten or eleven years old, neither brand nor ear mark perceived. The owner is desired to come, prove property, pay charges and take her away.

RICHARD MILES.

January 9, 1788.

This Day is published,
BY M. CAREY,
IN MARKET STREET,
The American Museum,
For DECEMBER, 1787.

Being the sixth and last number of the second volume; containing a General Title--an Index--and a Chronicle, or Summary of the most remarkable Events of the months of July, August, September, October, November, and December.

THE PRINTER begs leave, once more, to remind those of his subscribers who have not yet paid their first or second half year's subscription, that the very great expence of the MUSEUM renders a punctual compliance with that part of the terms which relates to the time of payment indispensably necessary to carry on the work. They may rest assured that their non-performance has in this respect already more than once rendered its continuance problematical--nor has the danger been escaped without the utmost difficulty. Were the work dear, or were it useless, perhaps some plea might be suggested for inattention--- But as it stands confessed one of the cheapest periodical publications extant---and as its utility is universally admitted, it might be expected that a punctual and exact payment would enable the proprietor to conduct it in the extensive and satisfactory manner he proposed, instead of involving him in unworthy difficulties.

He here begs leave to make a short extract from the preface to the July Museum:--

"After a careful examination of the various shoals on which periodical publications have been wrecked, in this and other countries, I am in dread of only one, which I am almost ashamed to intimate---but which, justice to myself, as well as a sincere desire, by insuring stability to this work, to be as far as serviceable to the community, of which I have the honor to be a member, as my feeble talents and my situation will admit, forbid me to pass over in silence. This shoal, the danger of which I deprecate, is the want of a due punctuality in paying the subscriptions. These being small, each individual is but too apt to suppose it a matter of great indifference whether he pays his quota at the time appointed, or in six or twelve months afterwards. This is a great mistake: For let it be observed, that the aggregate of these sums (however trivial and insignificant each may be, taken separately) is the only fund for defraying the great and inevitable expences of the undertaking. These cannot be deferred. They are all payable in ready money; and it would but ill satisfy the paper-maker and journeyman printer, &c. &c. to tell them, when money was due to them, that I could not pay it---that I expected money from my subscribers in two, three, or four months;---and that I should then pay them. If I told them such a Canterbury tale, I need not expect any more of their services. It is, further, to be observed, that the expence of sending twice, thrice, or, as is often the case, four times for the amount of a subscription, bears no small proportion to the sum received. After this explanation, it must be unnecessary to request of those subscribers, who wish success to the Museum, or desire its proprietor may receive the reward of his earnest endeavours to gratify them, that they will, at the completion of each volume, renew their subscription for the succeeding one. Those gentlemen, who, agreeably to the original plan, have already done this, are entitled to my thanks."

Those gentlemen, who have taken subscription papers, are requested to forward them to the printing-office before the 13th of January, 1788, as the list of subscribers, intended to be prefixed to the third volume, will be put to press about that time.

†† The subscription is \$8. per annum---One half of which is to be paid at the time of subscribing, and the same sum at the commencement of every succeeding volume.

Seasonable country produce will be received in payment.
Philadelphia, January 3, 1788.

TO BE SOLD,
Or Let on Improving Leases,

A BODY of very valuable Farming LANDS in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, 12 or 15 miles from the New-York line, beginning on the head waters of Shohocking creek, about four miles from the river Delaware, and extending south-westerly about three miles, when the course of the lands turns from the south, and runs nearly due west. The northernmost waters of the Equinunk touch two of the southernmost lots. There is an ample quantity of grass and meadow ground to each tract, and they are well timbered with beech, sugar maple, birch, ash, &c. The quality of these lands is in many instances very fine, and they will all make very good farms. Their produce will in a short time be got to market on easy terms, from the improvement of the navigation of the Delaware, and of the Susquehanna, a stream of which rises in the western part of the tracts, and runs northerly into that river at the Great Bend. The distance from Easton is about 80 miles. They have the advantage of most of the unimproved lands now offering for sale or lease, in being very near to thick settlements that lie eastward and southward of them, and in having the settlements on the Susquehanna in New-York and Pennsylvania, with that river itself, to defend them from the Indians, if any disturbances should take place. The twenty-three townships granted lately by New-York to Massachusetts lie on the north-west, and run nearly west of them to a great distance. As there is every reason to expect those townships will have several hundred families on them in the course of 1788, they will form a frontier for the lands now offered. For terms, apply to CHARLES COXE, Esq; Kingwood, Hunterdon county, New-Jersey, GEORGE PALMER, Esq; Moore township, Northampton county, Captain WILLIAM CRAIG, Easton (who have actual surveys of the lands,) or in Philadelphia, to
citM TENCH COXE,
Chefnut-street, Jan. 9, 1788. N. FRAZIER.

TO BE SOLD,

BETWEEN fifteen and sixteen hundred acres of land, being on the south side of Great Gunpowder river, in Baltimore county, Maryland. It extends upwards of two miles on the said river, and joins on the lands of Charles Ridgely. About half the tract is cleared, the land is of excellent quality, is about 12 miles from the town of Baltimore, and two north of the road leading from said town to York, in Pennsylvania. It will be sold either together or in different lots, to suit the purchaser. Fifteen per cent. must be paid at the purchase, the remainder may be paid by installments of three or four years, on giving proper security, with interest. Those inclining to purchase may apply to JOHN NICHOLSON, Merchant, in Baltimore, and the tenants on the land will show the same.

There is also adjoining the above tract an undivided half of a mill seat, which will be disposed of either separately or with any part of the above land. It is supposed equal to any mill seat on the continent, there being situations for four or five mills, easily supplied with water from the river.

To be Let, and entered on the first of
March next,

A HOUSE and Tan-yard, a few miles from this city, on a public road, advantageous for getting skins and hides in any quantity. Said place is beautifully situated and in good repair, and calculated to carry on the tanning business to advantage. A part of the premises was formerly occupied as a store to great advantage, and would suit a person in that branch of business. For further particulars, enquire of the Printers.

Was found November 9, 1787, on the Egypt Road,

A Lady's TIPPET.

Whoever has lost the same, by applying to the Printers, and paying the expence of this advertisement, may have it again.

By virtue of an Order from the Orphan's Court of Berks county, will be exposed to sale, at public vendue, on the 26th day of January 1788, on the premises,

A CERTAIN Tract of Land, situate in Exeter township, in said county, adjoining land of Samuel Lee, Richard Tea, and others, containing about 50 acres, whereon is an excellent Stone Grist-mill, conveniently situated and built, either for merchant or country work, on a never failing stream. There is in said mill two pair of stones, one of which is excellent burr; there is also on said premises an elegant stone dwelling-house, with other commodious stone buildings; late the estate of Judah Boone, deceased. Four hundred pounds of the purchase money to be paid within one week from the day of sale. The sale to begin at one o'clock, where due attendance will be given, by
THOMAS CHERINGTON, } Administrators.
THOMAS LEE, }

STOLEN in the night between the 13th and 14th of December last, out of the stable of the subscriber, living in Upper-Milford township, Northampton county, about half a mile from George Clein's tavern, a brown MARE, 14 or 15 years old, about 14 hands high, has neither brand nor ear-mark, shod all round immediately before she was stolen, has a very strong mane, trots and paces, carries her head very low, and is with fold; was also stolen on the same night, a good saddle and curb bridle. Whoever takes up and secures said Mare, saddle and bridle, so as the owner may have them again, shall have THIRTY SHILLINGS, and reasonable charges, and THIRTY SHILLINGS more for the thief, if secured, brought to justice, and convicted of the theft, paid by
Jan. 1, 1788. ABRAHAM KRIEBEL.

Goshen, Chester county, Dec. 28, 1787.
By virtue of a writ of Venditioni Exponas to me directed, will be exposed to public Sale, on the premises, on Saturday, the 19th day of January next, at one o'clock in the afternoon, a messuage, plantation and tract of land, situate in the township of Newgarden, containing 65 acres, more or less, bounded by lands of Benjamin Mason, Benjamin Brown and others; late the estate of Enoch Betts; seized, taken in execution, and to be sold, by
† EZEKIEL LEONARD, Sheriff.

Goshen, Chester county, Dec. 28, 1787.
By virtue of a writ of Venditioni Exponas to me directed, will be exposed to public Sale, on the premises, on Monday, the 1st day of January next, at one o'clock in the afternoon, a messuage, plantation and tract of land, situate in the township of Uwchland, containing 106 acres, more or less, bounded by lands of David Lloyd, Benjamin Butler, John Butler and others; late the estate of Joseph Lloyd; seized, taken in execution, and to be sold, by
† EZEKIEL LEONARD, Sheriff.

Goshen, Chester county, Dec. 28, 1787.
By virtue of a writ of Venditioni Exponas to me directed, will be exposed to public Sale, on the premises, on Tuesday, the 22d day of January next, at one o'clock in the afternoon, a messuage, plantation and tract of land, situate in the township of Newlin, containing 280 acres, more or less, bounded by lands of James Smith, Stephen Harlen, Joel Harlen and others; late the estate of Abner Cloud; seized, taken in execution, and to be sold, by
† EZEKIEL LEONARD, Sheriff.

Goshen, Chester county, Dec. 28, 1787.
By virtue of a Precept, from under the hands and seals of the trustees of the general loan-office of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to me directed, will be exposed to public Sale, on the premises, on Tuesday, the 29th day of January next, at one o'clock in the afternoon, a messuage, plantation and tract of land, situate in the township of West-Nantmill, containing 250 acres, more or less, bounded by lands of Robert Green, John Taylor and others; said tract of land to be sold at the suit of the commonwealth, as the estate late of James Starrett, by
† EZEKIEL LEONARD, Sheriff.

Goshen, Chester county, Dec. 28, 1787.
By virtue of a Precept, from under the hands and seals of the trustees of the general loan-office of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to me directed, will be exposed to public Sale, on the premises, on Wednesday, the 30th day of January next, at one o'clock in the afternoon, a certain tract or parcel of land, situate in the township of Newlin, containing 100 acres, more or less, bounded by lands of John Bentley, Jesse Taylor and others; said tract of land to be sold at the suit of the commonwealth, as the estate late of Nathaniel Jefferies, by
† EZEKIEL LEONARD, Sheriff.

Chester county, December 25, 1787.
By virtue of a writ of Levam Facias, and sundry writs of Fieri Facias, to me directed, will be exposed to public sale, on the premises, at the house of the Widow Keyser, in Upper Chester township, on Thursday, the 31st day of January next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, A messuage and two tracts of land, one containing 90 acres, and the other 11 acres and an half, bounded by lands of Mary Norris, Henry Hale Graham, Esq; Jacob Richards and Robert Robinson, lying within two miles of Chester, and three from Marcus-Hook; and at the same time and place will be sold, horses, cows, sheep and swine, a waggon and gears, plough and harrow, &c. &c. the whole taken in execution as the estates real and personal of William Keyser, deceased, and to be sold, by
† EZEKIEL LEONARD, Sheriff.

Chester county, December 26, 1787.
By virtue of a writ of Levam Facias, to me directed, will be exposed to public sale, on Saturday, the 2d day of February next, at one o'clock in the afternoon, at Joseph Gibbon's tavern, in Springfield township, in the said county. A certain stone messuage or tenement, plantation and tract of land thereunto belonging, situate in Springfield aforesaid, containing 212 acres and three quarters, bounded by Crum creek, and by lands of James Crozer, John Crozer, Job Dicks, Joseph Gibbon, &c. on which premises is a good stone spring-house, over a never-failing spring of water, and sundry other buildings; this plantation is conveniently situated for a store, or any kind of public business, as it lies at the junction of three very public roads; late the estate of Jane Tennant, deceased; seized and taken in execution, by
† EZEKIEL LEONARD, Sheriff.

Just published, and to be sold Wholesale or Retail, by HALL and SELLERS, at the New-Printing-Office, opposite the Jerfey Market,

Poor Richard's Almanack,
For the Year 1788.

Chester county, December 26, 1787.
By virtue of a writ of Levam Facias, to me directed, will be exposed to public sale, on Monday, the 4th day of February next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at the house of James Elliott, inn-keeper, at Newtown Square, A messuage or tenement, plantation and tract of land, situate in the township of East-town, containing 106 acres, bounded by lands now or late of Isaac Wayne, Robert Llewellyn, Lewis Morris, Ellis Ellis, Thomas Tucker, and Bernard Vanleer; taken in execution as the estate of John Morris, deceased, and to be sold, by
† EZEKIEL LEONARD, Sheriff.

CAME to the plantation of the Subscriber, living at the seven mile stone, on Lancaster road, in Lower Merion township, Montgomery county, on the 18th of November last, a young sorrel MARE, about 15 hands high, trots and canters, and is shod all round. The owner, proving property and paying charges, may have her again, by applying to
Dec. 29, 1787. RICHARD TUNIS.

December 29, 1787.
CAME to the Nag's head tavern, on Bartenhill, a sorrel HORSE, with a bald face, about 13 hands high, supposed to be between 5 and 6 years old. Whoever has lost him, may have him again, by applying to PETER MILLER, and paying charges.

Philadelphia, December 28, 1787.
WHEREAS Thomas Procter, Esq; late High Sheriff for the city and county of Philadelphia, has, in pursuance of warrants to him directed, made report to us, at the Court-House, that he had taken the bodies, and seized and secured the estates, real and personal, of Abraham Yocum, collector of the township of Kingsessing; Nehemiah Evans, collector of the township of Lower Merion; Samuel Stedler and Israel Davis, collectors of the township of Limerick; Daniel Rynear, collector of the township of Upper Dublin; John Blake, collector of the township of Moreland; Andrew Redheffer, collector of the township of Springfield; and Jacob Gerhard, collector of the township of Franconia; for the balances due on their several duplicates, they having neglected to pay the same into the hands of Isaac Snowden, Esq; late County Treasurer, agreeably to the laws of this State.

NOTICE is hereby given, That a general meeting of the Commissioners will be held at the Court-House, on the Sixteenth Day of January next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, when and where the said Abraham Yocum, Nehemiah Evans, Samuel Stedler, Israel Davis, Daniel Rynear, John Blake, Andrew Redheffer and Jacob Gerhard, collectors, are required to pay the balances of their respective duplicates; otherwise warrants will then be issued to empower the Sheriff to proceed to the sale of the said collectors goods and chattels, lands and tenements, or such parts thereof as may be sufficient to discharge the said balances, with costs, &c. agreeable to law in this case made and provided.

GEORGE GRAY,
PETER BROWN, } Commissioners.
HUGH ROBERTS.

The Honorable the Supreme Executive Council having been pleased to appoint the subscriber

Auctioneer for the city of Philadelphia,

HE begs leave to inform the Public, that he intends to carry on the business of Auctioneer, at the Store in Front-street lately occupied by Aribur St. Clair & Co. where he is now ready to receive GOODS for PUBLIC SALE; and assures those who may be pleased to employ him, of his utmost attention to their interest, and punctuality of payment.

The stated days of sale for Dry Goods at said store are Tuesdays and Thursdays, and Furniture on Wednesdays, from 9 till 12 o'clock.

John Patton, Auctioneer.

TO BE SOLD,

By the subscribers, executors of the last will and testament of David Schaffer, senior, deceased,

A Certain Plantation and tract of land in Bensalem township, Bucks county, bordering on the river Delaware, about 14 miles from the city of Philadelphia, containing 160 acres of land, late the property of Joseph Galloway, and now in the tenure of David Germon. There is a good Frame Dwelling-house erected on the premises, with a well of water near the door. About 40 or 50 acres are already cleared and in good fence, a considerable proportion whereof is meadow ground, and more may be made at a moderate expence, so as to render it convenient for a grazier. The remainder is woodland, a part of which has excellent timber. There is also a valuable fishery belonging to the same. For further particulars apply to David Germon, on the premises, to the Widow Schaffer, or John Schaffer, in the city of Philadelphia. An indubitable title will be given, and the terms made easy by the subscribers,

CATHARINE SCHAFFER, Executrix,
CHRISTOPHER KUCHER, } Executors.
FREDERICK A. MUHLBERG,

FOR SALE.

AGRIST-MILL and SAW-MILL,

A situate in Upper Merion township and county of Montgomery, both on a never failing stream of water, within half a mile of the Gulph mill, the dam and banks are well secured. The Grist-mill is double geared, has one pair of French burrs and one pair of country stones, three bolting chests, two of the bolting cloths new, being put on within these three months, is in good repair and fitted for making superfine flour, in a good neighbourhood for getting wheat, as well as procuring what may come down Schuylkill, being but half a mile from it. The Saw-mill is in good order, almost new, and may be worked to profit.

Appertaining thereto are about 24 acres of land, consisting of two apple orchards of grafted fruit, one of 100, the other of 150 trees, 8 or 9 acres of excellent meadow, a garden pailed in, and 4 or 5 acres of woodland. On this plantation are a dwelling-house, a stone barn 30 by 40 feet, shingled with cedar and fitted with mows, will conveniently stable 6 cows and 8 horses, has a good threshing floor and will hold near 20 tons of hay. There are likewise a stone cave, with a smoke-house at top and a cooper's shop. For terms of sale, apply to THOMAS KINSEY, on the premises, or to SAMUEL ROBERTSON, in Vine near Front-street.

N. B. If the mills, &c. are not sold before the 20th of January next, they will be let.